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Serial No.: 10/815,423

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

2 What is claimed is: 1. (Currently amended) An extensible-markup-language Path Language (XPath) evaluating 3 4 method comprising evaluating the XPath relevant to an extensible-markup-language (XML) document by use of a computer, said step of evaluating being carried out individually concerning 5 inputted XML events, while subjecting the XML document to streaming processing, the step of 6 7 evaluating XPath comprising: a first step of serially inputting XML event strings constituting an XML document to be 8 9 processed; 10 a second step of serially evaluating the XPath respectively relevant to the inputted XML events while subjecting the XML document to streaming processing and retaining information 11 concerning a result of partial evaluation of the XPath in given storing means when the XPath is 12 13 partially established with respect to a given XML event; a third step of repeating the partial evaluation of the XPath along with the input of the 14 15 XML event strings while considering the result of the partial evaluation retained in the storing means and evaluating that the XPath is established with respect to the XML document when the 16 17 last part of the XPath is established; and 18 judging establishment of the entire XPath while accumulating results of said partial evaluation enabling evaluation of the XPath by use of said streaming processing 19 20 wherein the second step includes the steps of: generating an automaton for expressing the XPath to be evaluated; and 21 22 evaluating the XPath partially by allowing transition of a state of the automaton based on inputted respective XML events and retaining a result of the partial evaluation as the state of the 23 24 automaton: 25 wherein the second step includes the steps of:

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1	generating a first stack which expresses the XPath to be evaluated with a string of stack
2	elements; and
3	generating a second stack for analyzing a nested structure of the XML document to be
4	processed based on respective inputted XML events and then evaluating the XPath partially by
5	comparing the first stack with the second stack; and
6	wherein the second step includes the steps of:
7	serially constructing a document tree indicating a document structure of the XML
8	document to be processed based on input of respective XML events; and
9	evaluating the XPath along with construction of the document tree by use of the
10	document tree including a part which has been constructed.
11	2 4. (Canceled)
12	5. (Currently amended) An XPath evaluating apparatus comprising:
13	an evaluation executing unit being embodied in a program storage device readable by
14	machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions, and employed for inputting XML event
15	strings constituting an XML document and serially evaluating the XPath with respect to each of
16	XML events while subjecting the XML document to streaming processing, said serially
17	evaluating being carried out individually concerning inputted XML events, while subjecting the
18	XML document to streaming processing, and while retaining information concerning a result of
19	partial evaluation of the XPath when the XPath is partially established with respect to a given
20	XML event, and evaluating that the XPath is established with respect to the XML document
21	when the last step of the XPath is established;
22	an XML event transferring unit being embodied in a program storage device readable by
23	machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions, and employed for inputting the XML
24	event strings constituting the XML document to be processed and serially transferring the XML
25	event strings to the evaluation executing unit; and
26	a judging unit judging establishment of the entire XPath while accumulating results of
27 -	said partial evaluation enabling evaluation of the XPath by use of said streaming processing:

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1	an automaton generating unit being embodied in a program storage device readable by
2	machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions, and employed for generating an
3	automaton which expresses the XPath to be evaluated, wherein the evaluation executing unit
4	performs partial evaluation of the XPath by allowing a state of the automaton generated by the
5	automaton generating unit to perform transition based on the XML events transferred from the
6	XML event transferring unit, and retains a result of the partial evaluation as the state of the
7	automaton;
8	a stack generating unit being embodied in a program storage device readable by machine
9	tangibly embodying a program of instructions, and employed for generating a first stack which
10	expresses the XPath to be evaluated with a string of stack elements,
11	wherein the evaluation executing unit performs partial evaluation of the XPath by
12	generating a second stack for analyzing a nested structure of the XML document subject to
13	processing based on the XML events transferred from the XML event transferring unit and then
14	comparing the first stack generated by the stack generating unit with the second stack.
15	6 13. (Canceled)
16	14. (Previously presented) A program embodied in a program storage device readable by
17	machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions, and employed for controlling a compute
18	to evaluate the XPath with respect to an XML document, the program causing the computer to
19	execute the procedures for carrying out the steps of claim 1.
20	15. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage device
21	readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions for causing evaluation of
22	the XPath relevant to an extensible-markup-language (XML) document, the program of
23	instructions in said article of manufacture for causing a computer to effect the steps of claim 1.
24	16 (Opinion) A many
24	16. (Original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of
25	instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for evaluating the XPath relevant

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- 1 to an extensible-markup-language (XML) document, said method steps comprising the steps of
- 2 claim 1.
- 3 17. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium comprising the program according to
- 4 claim 14.
- 5 18. (Previously presented) A computer program product comprising a program storage device
- 6 readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions for causing XPath
- 7 evaluation, the program of instructions in said computer program product for causing a
- 8 computer to effect the Xpath evaluating apparatus of claim 5.
- 9 19. 20. (Canceled)